

Claims

- [c1] 1. A method of producing transplastomic plants comprising the steps of:
- (a) growing a suspension culture of plant cells containing plastids;
 - (b) transforming the plastids with a heterologous nucleic acid comprising at least a selectable marker;
 - (c) selecting for plant cells containing transformed plastids; and
 - (d) regenerating transplastomic plants from the plant cells containing transformed plastids.
- [c2] 2. The method of claim 1 in which the plastids are transformed by microparticle bombardment.
- [c3] 3. The method of claim 1 in which the suspension culture is grown in the dark.
- [c4] 4. The method of claim 1 in which the plant is tobacco.
- [c5] 5. The method of claim 1 in which the heterologous nucleic acid also comprises a gene of interest.